

# Erica Shumener

## *curriculum vitae*

University of Pittsburgh  
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### Areas of specialization

Metaphysics

### Areas of competence

Philosophy of Science (general)

### Appointments

- 2015 – Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh  
2015 – Resident Fellow, Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh  
2018 – Associate Director, Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh  
2018 – Secondary Appointment, Assistant Professor, Department of History and Philosophy of Science  
Sp 2019 Visiting Faculty Member, Rutgers University  
2019-20 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

### Education

- 2016 PH.D. (defended in Fall 2015) in Philosophy, New York University. Dissertation Title: *Identity, Intrinsicity, and Laws of Nature*. Dissertation Committee: David Chalmers, Kit Fine (chair), Ted Sider.  
Fall 2011 Visiting Student, Cornell University  
Win 2011 & Visiting Student, Australian National University.  
Sum 2009  
2008 B.A. *Summa Cum Laude* in Philosophy (with highest honors) and History, New York University

### Publications

- (fthc) “Humeans are out of this World”, *Synthese*  
(fthc) “Ground and Identity” for the *Routledge Handbook on Ground*  
(fthc) “Do Identity and Distinctness Facts Threaten the PSR?”, *Philosophical Studies*  
(fthc) “Explaining Identity and Distinctness” *Philosophical Studies*  
2019 “Building and Surveying: Relative Fundamentality in Bennett’s *Making Things Up*,” *Analysis*  
2017 “Laws of Nature, Explanation, and Semantic Circularity,” *The British Journal for Philosophy of Science*  
2017 “The Metaphysics of Identity,” *Philosophy Compass*

### Fellowships, grants, honors, etc.

- 2019-20 Beca Posdoctoral, IIFs UNAM  
2014-15 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship  
2012-13 Graduate Student Fellow, New York Institute of Philosophy: Foundations of Epistemology  
2010 New York University Travel Grant  
2008-13 MacCracken Dissertation Fellowship, New York University

- 2008 elected *Phi Beta Kappa*  
 2007 Salomonowitz Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University Philosophy Department (one recipient per year)  
 2007 John W. Wilkes Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University History Department

### Presentations

- 2020 TBA, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (colloquium)  
 2019 “Governance and Necessitation”, FRAMEphys Workshop on Laws of Nature and Grounding, University of Birmingham  
 2019 Comments on Harjit Bhogal’s “Induction and the Glue of the World”, Humean Laws Workshop, Harvard University  
 2019 “A Problem with Identity”, University of Maryland, College Park (colloquium)  
 2019 “Governance with only Necessitation”, Pacific APA Metaphysics of Science Group  
 2019 “A Problem with Identity”, Diaphora Conference on Philosophical Methodology, University of Barcelona
- 2018 Commentary on Trenton Merricks’ “Identity and What Matters”, 2018 New England Workshop on Metaphysics  
 2018 Commentary on Agustín Rayo’s “The Open-Endedness of Logical Space”, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Colloquium  
 2018 “Properties, Facts, and Object-Identity”, Objects and Properties: Generating Dialogue, University of Cambridge  
 2018 “Grounding and Identity”, Hamburg Workshop on Ground, PHLOX
- 2018 “Explaining Identity and Distinctness”.  
 April 2018 Conference on the Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University  
 March 2018 Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Telluride, Colorado
- 2017 “Against Fundamental Identity and Distinctness”, Conference on Personal Identity, Paros, Greece
- 2017 Commentary on Chris Dorst’s “Why are the Laws so Useful?” CU Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Colorado Boulder.
- 2017 Commentary on Marianna Antonutti Marfori’s “Indirect Mathematical Naturalism” Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah
- 2017 Commentary on Rebecca Chan’s “Ethics-First Metaphysics” Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah
- 2017 “A Minimal Account of Governance”  
 Dec. 2017 Iris Einheuser Memorial Lecture, Duke University  
 June 2017 SPAWN workshop, Syracuse University  
 April 2017 Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech
- 2016-7 “Physicalism without Ground”  
 June 2017 Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah  
 Jan. 2017 Ranch Metaphysics Workshop  
 June 2016 “Physicalism without Grounding”, Grounding and Consciousness Conference University of Birmingham
- 2017 “Commentary on Jonathan Schaffer’s ‘The World for Explanation’ ” Sociedad Filosófica Ibero Americana (SOFIA) XXI Conference
- 2016 “Intrinsicity, Grounding, and Parthood” Workshop on the Metaphysics of Ground University of Texas at Austin
- 2016

- “Commentary on Ted Sider’s ‘Object-Free Ontology’”, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division
- 2015 “Hempel, Explanation and Circularity”  
University of Toronto M &E Group  
Hempel and Beyond Workshop, University of Cologne
- 2015 “Commentary on Jon Litland’s “Bicollective Ground” American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division
- 2015 “Silliness, Loneliness, and Intrinsicity”  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pittsburgh  
Northern Illinois University  
Yale University
- 2014 “Explaining Identity and Distinctness” Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University
- 2014 “Grounding Questions” Recent Work on the Logic of Ground Workshop, University of Oslo
- 2013 “How the Laws of Nature Govern” Women in Metaphysics Retreat and Workshop (supported by the Princeton, Rutgers, and NYU philosophy departments)
- 2012 Commentary on Ryan Perkins’ “Of Grounding and Explanation” 12th Annual Columbia-NYU Philosophy Conference, New York University
- 2011 “Truthmaking: Problems with the Monistic Approach” Australian National University, Kioloa Postgraduate Conference.
- 2011 “Exploring Hyperintensional Approaches to Intrinsicity” Australian National University Philosophy Society Seminar.
- 2010 Commentary on Karen Bennett’s “Construction Area (No Hard Hat Required)” Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University

### Teaching

#### *UNDERGRADUATE*

- S17,18 F 18 Freedom and Determinism (Pitt)  
Spr 2018 Introduction to Philosophical Problems (Pitt)  
Fall 2016,17 Metaphysics (Pitt)  
Fall 2015,16 Concepts of Human Nature (Pitt)  
Spr 2014 Introductory Logic (NYU)  
Sum 2013 Epistemology (NYU)  
Sum 2012 Central Problems in Philosophy (NYU)

#### *GRADUATE (ALL AT PITT)*

- Fall 2017 Laws of Nature  
Spring 2017 The Metaphysics of Relations  
Spring 2016 Metaphysics Seminar: Explanation and Fundamentality

#### *MISCELLANEOUS*

- Sum 2018 “Laws of Nature”, Pittsburgh Summer Program 2: A Summer Program in Philosophy of Science for Underrepresented Groups

Supervising (all at Pitt)GRADUATE

- 2017-? Prospectus/Dissertation Committee member for Daniel Kaplan, Leona Mollica, Willy Penn, and Rachael Driver.
- Fall 2016-? Comprehensive examination committee member for Rachael Driver, Leona Mollica, Annika Froese, and Alnica Visser.
- 2016-? Teaching Mentor for Jasmin Özel, Maximillion Tegtmeier, Alnica Visser, Shivam Patel, Elena Garadja

UNDERGRADUATE

- Sum 2017 Advisor to Jennifer Liu, “Scaling from Micro to Macro: Philosophical Investigations of the Living Through Art”, Brackenridge Summer Fellowship

Department and Professional Service

- 2019 Workshop Organizer, MAWM (*Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics*) at the University of Pittsburgh
- 18-19, 16-17 Faculty Liaison, Pitt Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison Committee
- 2018-19 Member, Pitt Faculty Search Committee
- 2018 Member, Pitt Department Chair Nomination Committee
- 2017-18 Co-Director, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee
- 17-19, 15-16 Member, Pitt Colloquium Committee
- Fall 2017 Leader, *Shut Up and Write*, Pitt Philosophy
- 2016-18 Faculty Ambassador, Pitt Undergraduate Philosophy Club
- 2016-17 Scribe, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee
- 2016-?? Planning Committee, *Midwest Annual Metaphysics Workshop*
- 2015 Co-organizer (with Zee R. Perry), Workshop on the Metaphysics of Quantity at NYU
- 2012 Assistant Organizer, *California Metaphysics Conference at USC*
- 2012-13 Member, NYU Colloquium Committee
- 2010-12 Co-organizer, *NYU Metaphysics Bootcamp Workshop*
- 2009-10 Member, NYU Committee on Women and Minority Hiring
- 2009 Co-organizer, *9th Annual NYU-Columbia University Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy*
- ongoing Referee for:  
*Analysis* (2019), *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, (2019), *Dialectica* (2013, 2018), *Erkenntnis* (2014), *Inquiry* (2018), *Journal of the APA* (2019), *Metaphysics* (2019), *Philosophers’ Imprint* (2017), *Philosophical Quarterly* (2018), *Philosophical Studies* (2014, 2016, 2017, 2019), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (2017, 2019), *Philosophy of Science* (2018), *Res Philosophica* (2015), *Synthese* (2017, 2019), *Thought* (editorial panel member: 2015-18)

References

David Chalmers  
 New York University  
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 University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
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